

## **SFU Press Releases Collection**

These archival copies have been generated from web press releases maintained and originally written by SFU Communications and Marketing. Where possible, an effort has been made to preserve the public comments left on the website as well as any included photos or other images. All textual content should be faithful to the original press releases; contact numbers have been removed but they have not otherwise been altered in any way. However, this collection of documents spans multiple generations of web authoring software and not all formatting will be exact.

## MEDIA RELEASE

# Bee Time wins 2015 Governor General's Literary Award for Nonfiction

October 28, 2015

[Tweet](#) [Facebook](#) [Pinterest](#) [Email](#) [Print](#)

**Contact:**

Mark Winston, 778.782.7894; [winston@sfu.ca](mailto:winston@sfu.ca)

Marianne Meadahl, University Communications, 778.782.9017; [Marianne\\_Meadahl@sfu.ca](mailto:Marianne_Meadahl@sfu.ca)

**Photo:** <http://at.sfu.ca/iEGvFd>

Simon Fraser University professor Mark Winston's prolific book on his lifetime as a world-leading bee expert—*Bee Time: Lessons From the Hive*—has won the prestigious **2015 Governor General Literary Award** for Nonfiction.

According to the awards jury, Winston's book "distills a life's devotion to the study of bees into a powerful and lyrical meditation on humanity. This compelling book inspires us to reevaluate our own relationships both with each other and the natural world. Vital reading for our time."

In *Bee Time*, Winston investigates the many influences bees have had on human society, and what we can learn from how bees have responded to their own societal challenges. Earlier this year, the book, published by Harvard University Press, was lauded with a **Canadian Science Writers' Association award**.

"I look to the Governor-General list every fall for good books to read, so for *Bee Time* to be on the list is an enormous thrill, and an extraordinary honour," says Winston, who shares his reflections on three decades as a bee biologist in his award-winning book.

As one of the world's authorities on bees and pollination, Winston has devoted his career to research and teaching, as well as writing and providing commentary on bees, environmental issues and science policy. Now a professor and senior fellow at SFU's Centre for Dialogue and founder of the Semester in Dialogue program (launched in 2002), he has written six previous books on topics from bees to the environment, and has been a consistently sought-out expert by national and international media.

"From altering our understanding of agricultural ecosystems to how urban planners are looking to bees to design more nature-friendly cities, I tried in *Bee Time* to offer practical views about the many lessons we can learn from bees, but also to express how grateful I am to bees for what they've taught me about collaboration, communication and interaction," explains Winston, who continues to write a blog, [www.winstonhive.com](http://www.winstonhive.com). A *New York Times* editorial he wrote on the book was the most read *NYT* article for two consecutive days, a sign of how interested people are in bees.

Among his many accolades, Winston is a co-winner of the Science Council of B.C.'s 1992 Gold Medal in the natural sciences for his role in discoveries that resulted in an entirely new understanding of how bees communicate.

Governor-General Literary award recipients receive \$25,000 and will be celebrated at a gala event at Rideau Hall later this year. This year nearly 1,000 titles were submitted for the seven English-language categories. The awards are presented annually by the **Canada Council for the Arts**.

For more details and a complete list of winners see <http://ggbooks.ca>

## ABOUT SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY:

As Canada's engaged university, SFU is defined by its dynamic integration of innovative education, cutting-edge research and far-reaching community engagement. SFU was founded 50 years ago with a mission to be a different kind of university—to bring an interdisciplinary approach to learning, embrace bold initiatives, and engage with communities near and far. Today, SFU is Canada's leading comprehensive research university and is ranked one of the top universities in the world. With campuses in British Columbia's three largest cities – Vancouver, Burnaby and Surrey – SFU has eight faculties, delivers almost 150 programs to over 35,000 students, and boasts more than 135,000 alumni in 130 countries around the world.

-30-

*Simon Fraser University: Engaging Students. Engaging Research. Engaging Communities.*

[Comment Guidelines](#) 

- [For the Media](#)
- [For Faculty and Staff](#)
- [About SFU](#)
- [SFU News](#)

[Admission](#)  
[Programs](#)  
[Learning](#)  
[Research](#)  
[Community](#)  
[About](#)

[Maps + directions](#)  
[Library](#)  
[Academic Calendar](#)  
[Road Report](#)  
[Give to SFU](#)  
[Emergency Information](#)

[CONNECT WITH US](#)

[CONTACT US](#)

[Facebook](#)  
[Instagram](#)  
[Twitter](#)  
[YouTube](#)

Simon Fraser University  
8888 University Drive  
Burnaby, B.C.  
Canada V5A 1S6

[Terms and conditions](#)  
© Simon Fraser University